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The Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

NIC No. 00966-85/1
25 February 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

FROM: George Kolt
National Intelligence Officer for Europe

SUBJECT: Warning and Forecast Report for Europe

1. Attached is my report to the DCI based on our meeting held 20 February 1985. If there are any significant amendments or additions you would wish to make, please let me know.

2. Next month's warning meeting will be on 20 March 1985 at 1015 in room 7-E-62, CIA Headquarters. Please have your clearances passed and call [redacted] with names of the attendees by noon, 19 March 1985.

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3. I also encourage you to phone in suggestions for the agenda and proposals to make opening presentations. It would be helpful to have your comments for the next meeting by Monday, 11 March 1985.


George Kolt

Attachment

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NIC No. 00966-85
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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: George Kolt
National Intelligence Officer for Europe

SUBJECT: February Warning and Forecast Report

I. The Main Topics

1. Greece-Turkey: The Rising Strains

A. Discussion

Steadily rising tensions are increasing the risk of serious incidents due to mutual misperceptions. Analysts, nonetheless, believe that neither side wants a violent confrontation, an attitude that explains the low-key treatment by both sides of an alleged shooting scrape between border guards in Thrace in early February.

The trends, however, are bad. The forthcoming Greek parliamentary elections campaign could cause new problems if Papandreu chooses to whip up anti-Turkish sentiment in his campaign. For their part, the Turks appear to be losing patience and "feeling wimpish". They believe themselves ill-used by the West which, by their lights, presses for pointless concessions to Greece and by the Greeks who appear unrelenting.

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Another complication for Turkey is Bulgaria's brutal suppression of its Turkish minority with only minimal protests from Turkey's allies. Upwards of 400 Turks have probably been killed for resisting the military-enforced "name change" drive in rural areas of the southwest and northeast Bulgaria. Sofia's precise motives are unclear but Soviet approval of the campaign is presumed likely. Turkey has not complained too loudly as it depends on surface access to West Europe across Bulgaria, because its power to influence Sofia is practically nil, and it does not want to create the appearance of speaking for Turkish kin in Soviet Central Asia. But internal pressures in Turkey are increasing and Ozal has recalled the Turkish Ambassador for consultations and allowed parliament to debate the issue in a closed session. The issue may also exacerbate civil-military relations if some Turkish military leaders come to feel that Ozal has not been forceful enough in upholding the nation's interests.

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2. Portugal: Weaknesses in the Governing Coalition

A. Discussion

The stability of the Socialist-Social Democrat (PSD) coalition improved recently as the PSD strengthened its leadership and thus made itself a more stable coalition partner. Barring an unexpected turn of events, President Reagan's visit in May should find Lisbon's leaders reasonably united, although the Presidential elections in December will be hard-fought.

The resignation of the indecisive PSD leader Mota Pinto as deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister early this month paved the way for his replacement by Rui Machete, who has a

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reputation for avoiding PSD factionalism while dealing as an equal with the Socialists. His known positions on defense issues, moreover, suggest continuity in this sector.

The rivalry between President Eanes and Socialist party leader and Premier Mario Soares remains an open problem. But Eanes recently has muted both his criticism of Soares and his threats to call early parliamentary elections. Since President Eanes cannot call for new elections within six months of the December Presidential elections and the coalition appears unlikely to dissolve for other reasons, there could be a period of calm lasting into the usual summer doldrums.

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3. The "Euro-Terrorist Threat": The Official Response

A. Discussion

The recent resurgence of terrorism in Western Europe and the growing evidence of coordination have led to increased governmental contacts that are giving higher-level and more visible approval to previous commitments on working level cooperation. They show firmness to national audiences and to the terrorists and may improve existing cooperation. The major bilateral advances include: the Franco-German summit on terrorism--which called for a united front, a joint operations working group, hotline communications and tighter border controls;

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and some hints that Paris might extradite some of the 200 to 250 Italian terrorists as a partial response to Italy's persistent public demarches.

Multilateral cooperation is also improving a bit. Concern about security for the summit in West Germany has spurred anti-terrorist coordination. Due to unusually high French concerns, Paris has approved discussions on terrorism in the NATO/NAC. And Italy, as head of the EC for this six month period, is raising the issue in relevant EC political fora.

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Many obstacles remain however. Progress is uneven, as some countries have weak anti-terrorist programs. And political restraints--such as reluctance to enforce unpopular border controls, France's commitment to its reputation as a sanctuary for political exiles and the West Germans' strong aversion for new police powers--are likely to inhibit effective actions.

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II. Monitoring Items

1. Hungary: Preparing for The Thirteenth Congress.

Rumors that Kadar might step down have receded as the 25-26 March event approaches. Speculation now forecasts a gradual evolution of a "mechanism for succession". There are new rumors of a cultural crackdown following the purge of an editor for publishing a poem reviving the issue of Imre Nagy's execution.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] recent price hikes were not handled smoothly and the complaints suggest continuing tension on market-style reforms is likely.

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2. Poland: Jaruzelski's Post-Trial Crackdown

The arrest of seven Solidarity leaders, rumored charges against Lech Walesa and continuing criticisms of the Church's political role have dispelled any notion that the much-publicized trial and the conviction of Father Popieluszko's murderers could pave the way for a genuine dialogue between the regime and Society. A 15-minute work stoppage on 28 February called by Solidarity to protest price rises may be used by the government as a pretext for a further crackdown.

3. Belgium: The INF Decision

Despite confusion in official statements in Brussels, analysts believe deployments of the first sixteen INF missiles will take place by June or July. The next deployment (now scheduled for mid-1986), however, might become part of a compromise through linkage to progress in the Geneva talks. The center right coalition moreover faces a close race in December parliamentary elections and a go ahead decision on INF deployment will increase its vulnerability.

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4. West Germany: The Prospects for the FDP and Genscher

The Free Democratic party is likely to make a poor showing in elections in the Saarland, Hesse and Berlin on 10 March. It is, however, not likely to withdraw from the governing national coalition. Although the replacement of its long-time leader Hans Dietrich Genscher by Martin Bangemann at the Saarbrücken congress went smoothly, tensions are likely as Genscher will probably try to retain a guiding role in party affairs. Further, Genscher may want to maintain a high personal profile by undertaking foreign policy actions not entirely consistent with Chancellor Kohl's wishes.


George Kolt

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